

Canada Made 20th-Fox Div'n

Explains End Of Tax Resolution

Reasons for dropping the recent budget resolution which would have applied a 20 per cent amusement tax on motion picture performances improperly presented as non-profit enterprises, were advanced by the Honorable D. C. Abbott, Minister of Finance, in

(Continued on Page 3)

Theatre Projected And One Opened

Planning of a new theatre for Kapuskasing, Ontario, and the opening of the first theatre in Cloverdale, BC, featured the recent industry building news. Start of excavation on others and plans for alterations and additions to two during the week

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Gehring, Samson Promoted As Smith Succeeds Connors

Canada, formerly a district of the Western division of Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, has been made a separate sales division, following conferences between Andrew W. Smith, Jr., newly-appointed general sales manager as successor to Tom Connors, and William C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager.

Sydney Samson, in charge for some years of what was the Canadian district, now enjoys the status of a division manager, one of six in the company. As a district Canada was part of the Western division headed by Gehring prior to his promotion.

Naming of Canada as a full division and Samson's subsequent

(Continued on Page 3)

All-Out For Pic Pioneers Picnic

Everyone in the Motion Picture Industry, their friends, wives and children, have a cordial invitation from the Canadian Picture Pioneers to join them at their gala Family Picnic and Carnival to be held on Friday, June 20th, at Charlie Mave-

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TICKETS

for the

VARIETY CLUB'S NIGHT BASEBALL BENEFIT GAME

obtainable at

Film Weekly Office

25 Dundas Square

NFBoard Panned In Parliament

It is expected that the National Film Board, operation of which has received greater criticism from Opposition members during this session of the House of Commons than during any time since its inception, will receive a vigorous defence from

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Documentaries Grow In Theatre Favor

Interest of theatre patrons in films classified as documentaries or of a documentary nature is growing in Canada, a condition in contrast with the overwhelming preference for escapist pictures in the past. Something of a broadening of public film taste has been noted during the past year, indicating a renewed interest in realistic subjects and treatment.

During the war the patrons, living under war conditions and exposed to a constant flow of news and propaganda, looked at documentary reels with a sense of duty and at escapist films with

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Borrowed For Film

RKO has borrowed Claude Jarman Jr. from MGM for a lead in "Roughshod."

Says Canadians Not Critical Enough

"Canadians as a whole have accepted Hollywood fare much too uncritically, because we have produced little of our own, and have not been exposed sufficiently to the output of other countries to establish a basis of comparison," states

a pamphlet published recently by the Canadian Association for Adult Education to accompany a CBC broadcast on the same topic.

The pamphlet, entitled "What Are the Movies Doing To Us?," pointed out that American radio programs, periodicals and motion pictures have entered Canada on such a large scale that it has not

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BADGERING THE NFB

These are tough days for the National Film Board, what with Opposition politicians whacking away at it as a white elephant and so on. We don't go along with them on that. Despite all the fuss about the amount of money being spent by the NFB, its expenditures, when measured against film costs anywhere, are quite in line. The cost of making this or that film, which seems to horrify legislators and editorial writers, is often a normal expenditure determined by the charges of private companies assigned to its production, such as Shelly Films and Associated Screen News. It must be presumed they are giving the

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In 'Nightmare Alley'

Tyrone Power and Joan Blondell will star in Fox' "Nightmare Alley."

TWO-YEAR RENEWAL OF MONO FRANCHISE

Steve Brody, Monogram head, announces a two-year renewal of the Canadian franchise, unofficially said to be held by J. Arthur Rank. Better terms were secured for Mono and Allied Artists product, says Brody, which shows a marked improvement in quality.

THE CANADIAN PICTURE PIONEERS

How to get to
the Circle (M) Ranch



Gala
**FAMILY PICNIC
& CARNIVAL**
at MAVETY'S (M) RANCH
FRIDAY, JUNE 20th 1947



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BEAUTY CONTEST • BASEBALL
GAME • SPORTS • DANCING •
CARNIVAL GAMES • ETC.

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PICTURE INDUSTRY.

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Refuse Application For Desmond Writ

The full bench of the Nova Scotia Supreme Board recently dismissed an appeal by Mrs. Viola Desmond, Halifax Negro beauty parlor operator, against a recent decision of Mr. Justice M. B. Archibald in which he refused to grant her application for a writ of certiorari.

The writ was designed to provide a review of the evidence in connection with the conviction of Mrs. Desmond on a charge of attempting to defraud the government of one cent theatre amusement tax. After being ejected from a New Glasgow theatre she was fined \$20. Mrs. Desmond sat in the orchestra although she held a balcony ticket. She claimed that her ejection was because people of her color were forced to sit in the balcony by the management, a policy to which she objected.

According to the judgment, the evidence was not reviewable according to the law and that Mrs. Desmond's proper course was to have made an appeal.

Broadway Actor Set For First Film

Sam Wanamaker, director and male lead of Ingrid Bergman's play, "Joan of Lorraine," has been signed to a seven-year contract by producer Milton Sperling over spirited bidding by several major studios.

• FILMS OF FACT •

'CHILDREN ON TRIAL'

SENSATIONAL JUVENILE DELINQUENCY STORY

'EXERCISE MUSK-OX'

A LAND NEVER BEFORE TROD BY MAN

FEATURETTES

'Heir to the Throne'

Life of
PRINCESS ELIZABETH

'Toronto Symphony'

With
SIR ERNEST McMILLAN

'Instruments of Orchestra'

LONDON SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

'Man -- One Family'

A STORY OF TOLERANCE

'Indian Background'

STORY OF INDIA

'Singing Stars of Tomorrow'

REX BATTLE

ASTRAL FILMS

Three Set By Para For Technicolor

Three of Paramount's top pictures of the Spring and Summer production schedule will come to the screen in Technicolor. Henry Ginsberg, studio head, who recently announced plans for ten top productions, has added "Paleface" to the list, increasing to eleven the number which will go before the cameras in the next few months.

First of the Technicolor trio is "Whispering Smith," outdoor romance starring Alan Ladd and Robert Preston with Brenda Marshall, and at present before the cameras. Next to be filmed in Technicolor is "Paleface," Bob Hope starring vehicle which will start in July. Third on the Technicolor schedule is the Bing Crosby starrer, "A Connecticut Yankee," being prepared for a late August or early September start.

Richard Freeman Passes Suddenly

Richard Freeman, manager of the Pix Theatre, Toronto, passed away suddenly last week at the age of 65.

He is survived by his wife, Dora Thomas; his sons, Eric, Harold and Carl, and his daughters, Shirley and Barbara.

Interment was at Dawes Road Cemetery, Toronto.



ANDREW W. SMITH, JR.
Successor to Tom Connors
as general sales manager of
20th Century-Fox.

Canada Is Separate 20th-Fox Div'n

(Continued from Page 1)

promotion followed a recasting of the company's distribution structure from four to six divisions. It implies a recognition of Canada's importance as a film market and its growth in company stature is likely due to Gehring, at one time manager of the Toronto branch, who is extremely popular in the trade on this side of the border.

"The practice heretofore in the field of submitting all matters for final determination to home office officials will be discontinued," stated both Smith and Gehring. "The men in the field are responsible for the distribution of our company's pictures and we are now giving them the authority that goes with that responsibility. This is our 'open door' policy. It has been established following a meeting in the home office with Spyros P. Skouras, president, other officers, executives, and the chief field representatives of the company."

Samson, interviewed on his return to Toronto, stated that he contemplates no changes in the

Canadian personnel.

According to a Johnston Office rating, Canada is, with the exception of the United Kingdom, the greatest film market outside the United States. With Canadian rentals at close to \$17 millions last year, it provides 10 per cent of the 40 per cent of film royalties returned annually to the USA from non-USA markets. Twentieth Century-Fox is the first company which markets its own films in the Dominion to declare it a division instead of a district that is part of an American division.

Change in his rating gives Samson greater responsibility through what amounts to autonomy in the operation of the Canadian sales structure, which is made up of six territories. A veteran of the company, he was Buffalo branch manager when appointed general manager of the Canadian district in July, 1943. At a farewell dinner given in his honor by the Buffalo Variety Club, at which a Canadian delegation was present, Gehring described a good distributor as "a man with consideration, understanding and a sense of value" and said that Samson had those qualities. Tom Connors was one of the guests.

Gehring, with the exception of a short period, has been with 20th-Fox since 1918. After serving as manager in a number of branches he was made Central division manager in 1937 and became Western sales manager in March, 1941.

Smith, in the industry since he joined Pathe in 1914, is a former vice-president of Vitagraph and was general sales manager of United Artists and RKO. He joined 20th-Fox as Eastern division manager in 1942.

Connors, with a great record in the industry which he joined in 1913, came to 20th-Fox in 1941 as assistant to the president, the late Sydney R. Kent, and in 1942 took over the post he held at the time of his resignation. It is said that he will retain his association with the company by acting in an advisory capacity.

Dennis O'Keefe Cast

Dennis O'Keefe will star in Eagle-Lion's "T-Man."



SYDNEY SAMSON

With the change of status of Canada from a district to a division, he now becomes one of the company's six division managers.

Explains End Of Tax Resolution

(Continued from Page 1)

the House of Commons. It was the opinion of the Minister of National Revenue, said Abbott, that the resolution gave such wide discretionary power that he should not have to exercise it and they both felt that it would cause some injustices.

Resolution No. 5, explained as being aimed at including those who were escaping the impost through technicalities, read:

"That payment of excise tax be required in respect of any performance, exhibition or contest that includes professional performers, horse races or motion pictures when held, staged or operated by the institutions, boards or other organizations mentioned in subsection 2 of section 122 of the said act."

The Finance Minister's speech asking the committee for permission to drop it follows:

"With the permission of the committee I should like to drop this clause, and I will give the reason. The section now provides for the exemption of charitable organizations and for the exercise of discretion by the minister with respect to others. We had proposed to insert an amendment to try to prevent what we felt to be certain abuses of this exemption for charitable purposes, and there is no doubt that there are certain abuses. I do not need to go into the details of them. However, on further consideration of the question my colleague the Minister of Nation-

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Canadian Film Weekly

al Revenue and I came to the conclusion that, in order to do this, we would have to give such wide discretionary power to the minister that the discretion was one which, in his opinion, he should not have to exercise. It was felt that it might well result in a great deal of unfairness, and under the circumstances we concluded that we would prefer to allow the law to stand as it is and use its provisions as far as possible to check such abuses as continue. We could not devise an amendment which we felt would not in some cases do an injustice to organizations which have been enjoying this exemption and which might not have the advantage of it in the future. Therefore with the permission of the committee I would ask that the resolution be dropped."

'Welcome Stranger' Preams In Wpg.

Paramount's "Welcome Stranger," starring Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald as doctors, will have its Canadian premiere in Winnipeg on June 19th as a salute to the Canadian Medical Association, which is holding its annual convention there.

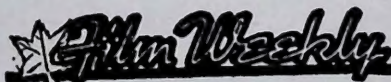
The film, which also stars Joan Caulfield, is the first joint one for them since "Going My Way."

Fitzgerald, an old doctor, hires Crosby, a young one, to fill in while he takes his vacation. He doesn't like him but finally gets around to it.

First Color Pic For Canada Carries On

The first Canada Carries On in color has been set by the National Film Board for late summer or early Fall release. Short, titled "Red Runs the Fraser," is at present being completed at Cinecolor. Film of the great salmon run on the Fraser River in BC was originally shot in 16 mm. kodachrome and lends itself exceptionally well to color, with good views of the red salmon by the thousands as seen through the shallow, green and white rapids of the Fraser.

Current Canada Carries On release is "Tomorrow's Citizens" and is a short showing how Canadian youth is being educated in classroom and by practical demonstrations in the art of becoming better citizens.



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All-Out For Pic Pioneers Picnic

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Circle "M" Ranch.

The Pioneer picnic will be the "big" outdoor event of the year. The shouts of barkers will prevail on the midway where games, bingo, and other items of interest will spread a carnival spirit.

A grudge game of baseball between the percentage boys of the film exchanges and the "Flat-buys" in exhibition, will be one of the highlights of the afternoon. Arrangements are being made to have six professional wrestlers hand down the decisions.

The fun-packed daylight hours will be followed by fancy footwork on the waxed floor in the modern and old-fashioned manner.

During the evening two of the highlights of the event will take place. A number of beauties selected from the Toronto film industry will appear before the judges in competition for the title of Queen of the Day. The dance floor will also be the setting for a draw to pick the lucky holder of the winning ticket for a Bendix Automatic Home Laundry unit. There will also be a draw for a radio and other valuable prizes.

This Pioneer gathering is designed primarily as a family picnic. Food will be available on the grounds and families desiring to pack their own picnic lunch baskets will be able to secure free milk or coffee.

Tickets to the grounds can be purchased from a Committee headed by Don Gauld — Telephone ADelaide 5791. Admission is \$1.00 for adults, with children admitted free. Tickets will entitle the holder to free chances on games, wheels, and bingo, and include a coupon for free milk or coffee.

Many exchanges and offices have declared an early closing at 2.00 p.m. on Friday, June 20th. Buses will leave from the Film Exchange Building at 277 Victoria Street at 2.15 p.m. It will be appreciated by the committee if private car owners who have room for extra passengers will call Miss Wells at ADelaide 2413 or 2414, and advise the time they will be ready to leave. Returning buses will commence to leave the Circle "M" Ranch at 10.30 p.m.

That number one booster of all things beneficial to the Canadian Picture Pioneers, Charlie Mavey, has donated the use of his Circle "M" Ranch, its staff, and all of its facilities for the occasion. For this and his many other contributions in effort and other essentials, the officers and directors are sincerely grateful.

Hamilton Honors Gurr



George Stroud, dean of Hamilton managers, praises Lloyd Gurr, retiring manager of the Century Theatre, at a dinner in the latter's honor at the Connaught Hotel. On the left is Jim McDonough, president of the Hamilton Theatre Managers' Association, which sponsored the occasion. George looks sincere, Lloyd embarrassed and Jim pleased.

Says Canadians Not Critical Enough

(Continued from Page 1)

always been easy to find means for our own self-expression. Canadians are so familiar with USA techniques and we so readily adjust ourselves to their mood and tempo, we are in danger of absorbing the ideas they purvey without much question or scrutiny." While radio and the press have countered by moving to meet Canadian needs, "There has been no comparable success with the commercial moving picture."

The cost of competition, raised by high salaries, the "fantastically extravagant" star system and expensive production methods have held picture making in Canada at a low level, the pamphlet said. Only a handful of Canadians had ever seen an all-Canadian feature production and without experts there could be no development of a production industry in Canada.

Stating that the problems presented by a Hollywood monopoly have been a matter of concern to American critics and educators as well as Canadian, the pamphlet claims that the rise of the British as a powerful competitor has been acclaimed in both countries. "There lies before us the prospect of a break in the monopoly of Hollywood," it says, "of the intelligent use by Western

civilization of the moving picture as a means toward understanding among the nations."

Quoting an American survey of 500 films made in 1920, 1925 and 1930, the process of courtship and life in general was shown to be unrelated to reality, the chief concern of the producer being with life in the upper income brackets.

Discussing juvenile delinquency, it said that "Wherever society fails to relieve urban and rural blight, we will have the juvenile delinquent regardless of his access to moving picture shows" but that "the movie can make anti-social conduct seem exciting and desirable."

In the matter of the movie as mass entertainment, the pamphlet observes that "While dealing in an art form, the producer is basically a merchant. He seeks to serve a huge mass market and cannot, therefore, permit his product to rise much beyond the level of what he gauges to be average intelligence. But many critics believe that he sets his sights too low. They point to an impressive list of films where producers, boldly experimenting, have given the public excellent entertainment of an unusual and thought-provoking sort, and yet have achieved box-office success."

Theatre Projected And One Opened

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kept construction at its highest peak.

Theatre Holding Corporation has completed arrangements with the Spruce Falls Power & Paper Company, operators of the 4-day 550-seat Community Club Theatre, the only one in Kapuskasing, to erect a new 750-seat theatre there. Work is to commence on or about August 1st from plans by H. G. Duerr. Contractor is Hill, Clark, Francis Company.

L. Toffey and O. Bird's new Clova Theatre in Cloverdale opened recently with gala ceremonies that featured a name contest and attracted wide publicity. The first in that community, the opening culminated several years of effort by the Junior Chamber of Commerce to have a theatre established there.

Contracts for the Famous Players' 800 seat theatre, costing \$100,000, in Kelowna, BC, will be let shortly. The company now operates the only theatre there, the 664-seat Empress, control of which will be taken over by a local syndicate when the new theatre is ready and it will become a second-run house.

Excavation has started for two theatres. In Beloeil, Quebec, Alcide Auclair has begun work on his contract for Francois Fortin's 600-seat \$30,000 project. At present the 300-seat 2-day Parish Hall and the 3-day 150-seat Beloeil Theatre are in operation. J. D. Cormier, Limitee, is doing the excavation work for Camille Bolduc's \$125,000 800-seat construction in Victoriaville, Quebec. The 450-seat Victoria is the only one there, but one other is planned, that being Roger Lalonde's 850-seat \$100,000 project.

United Amusement Company, Limited, has started work on \$29,000 worth of alterations to its theatre on King Street in Hamilton, Ontario. Work will include new floor, seats and front. The company operates three other houses in that city. In Fairville, NB, a new company, Lancaster Theatres, Limited, capitalized at \$100,000, has purchased the 418-seat Gaiety Theatre from L. A. Sprague and T. J. O'Rourke. The Gaiety, the only theatre there, will be renovated and enlarged, with completion of work expected in August.

Unexpected protest of some residents of Centre Island, summer resort in Toronto harbor, has caused the Parks Committee of City Council to hold up the granting of a permit to Al Samuels to build a 550-seat theatre until such time as the committee could investigate the claims of the deputations.

The Overlanders

with Chips Rafferty, Peter Pagan
Eagle-Lion 90 Mins.
INTERESTING SEMI-DOCUMENTARY:
AUSTRALIAN MADE: HAS OUTDOOR
SPECTACLE, ACTION.

When the war came to Australia and the Japanese launched air raids in the north at Darwin, it was decided to destroy vast herds of cattle rather than let them fall into the hands of the enemy in the event of invasion. That was one school of thought. Another was to drive the animals overland, across some pretty rugged country, to Brisbane, and eventually utilize them for home-based forces and Allied troops that came to reinforce Australian resistance.

This Michael Balcon production details the trials, dangers, hardships and eventual triumph of a group of drovers, male and female, who took the first herd, numbering 1,000, over 1,500 miles of prairie, badlands, mountains and rivers infested with crocodiles, to the pens at the Brisbane end.

The story begins at a small town called Wyndham, where Chips Rafferty, also known as the Australian Gary Cooper, organizes his expedition. His wife and daughters go along, too. Once the herd is started moving such obstacles as drought and lack of feed become apparent. A few animals are lost. Romance develops between Peter Pagan and Rafferty's daughter, Daphne Campbell. Pagan is hurt in a stampede. He's flown to Brisbane. At length the herd overcomes the perils of the route, reaches safety. The drovers set out again for another herd.

It is a simply told story of trial and tribulation backgrounded by broad glimpses of the Australian hinterland. It is an unusual offering and at the same time a revealing picture of little known aspects of the war.

CAST: Chips Rafferty, John Nugent, Howard, Daphne Campbell, Jean Blue, Helen Grieve, Peter Pagan, Clyde Combo, Henry Murdoch, Marshall Crosby.

CREDITS: Producer, Michael Balcon; Director, Harry Watt; Written by Harry Watt; Cameraman, Osmond Borradaile.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

'Song Of My Heart'

"Song of My Heart" has been set as the release title of Allied Artists' film of the life of Tchaikowsky which was recently completed.

Copacabana

with Groucho Marx, Carmen Miranda
UA 92 Mins.

POTENTIALLY SOCK PACKAGE OF ENTERTAINMENT; GAGS, GIRLS, MUSIC, GAYETY. BUY IT.

Gags and girls, the way they are served up here are a can't miss combination. And you may add to those two factors a flock of production numbers that still further show the female form divine off to striking advantage and a plot that is as screwy as they come, gets screwier as it unfolds. Constantly it is one laugh after another.

First and basically a familiar show business story, it is also a grand advertisement for the New York nitery of the same name.

Miss Miranda and Marx are a knockout comedy team. Where the latter gets off a sly innuendo, Miss Miranda knocks them for a loop with her dialectic treatment of the language. When they take brief moments out of the picture so the boy-meets-girl romance can be generated, they are eagerly awaited for their next appearance.

The Marx-Miranda combo is on free time. They are broke, too. Marx becomes a 10 per center and sells Miss Miranda to the owner of the Copa. He sells her twice, as "Mademoiselle Fifi," a French chanteuse and as "Carmen Novarro." It is a difficult assignment. She has to double up and split seconds to keep up the bamboozlement.

The story hits into the hectic with Miss Miranda knocking herself out. Steve Cochran further confuses the issue by falling for "Fifi." Marx finds himself in and out of the quandary, harassed by the staff, bedevilled by agents; Hollywood beckons.

Finally, it appears "Fifi" has been done in. Marx is on the spot. He plays checkers with himself while the cops beat their brains out. It comes out that he could not have killed her. She is two people in one. It becomes page one stuff. Marx winds up in Hollywood, makes a movie of what has transpired and the romance of Miss Jean with Cochran concludes with the pair viewing the Marx effort.

CAST: Groucho Marx, Carmen Miranda, Andy Russell, Steve Cochran, Gloria Jean, Louis Sobol, Abel Green, Earl Wilson and the Copa Girls.

CREDITS: Producer, Sam Coslow; Director, Alfred E. Green; Screenplay, Laslo Vaday, Alan Boretz, Howard Harris. DIRECTION, First Rate. PHOTOGRAPHY, Grade A.

The Farmer's Daughter

with Loretta Young, Joseph Cotten,
Ethel Barrymore

RKO 97 Mins.

ONE OF THE SIT-UP-AND-TAKE NOTICE SCREEN EVENTS OF THE YEAR; HEADED FOR ACCLAIM AND TOP COIN.

Loretta Young in this film gives one of the best performances of her career.

She goes places, does things. She's surrounded by Charles Bickford, Ethel Barrymore, Joseph Cotten.

Miss Young's first mistake after she leaves her parents' farm is to accept a lift into Capital City from Rhys Williams, a sloppy, boozy barn-painter. He gets stewed, smashes his jeep. She pays for the damages on William's promise to repay her next day when they reach the city. This does not happen.

In Capital City she needs a job and takes a domestic post at the Barrymore-Cotten domicile which is presided over by Butler Bickford. In short order, by her wit, application, enthusiasm, personality and industry, she ingratiates herself with the household. Cotten is a Congressman. Miss Barrymore is his mother.

Cotten cottons to Miss Young immediately. Miss Barrymore sees intelligence in the girl. Bickford admires her as first a worker, then a human. Cotten and Miss Young develop, romantically.

The plot does not get serious until Cotten returns from a quick European trip. A local Congressman has died. A new candidate has to be nominated and elected. Miss Young does not agree with the selection and at a rally she stands up and creates a furor with her truths about the selection. She creates a sensation. The opposition propositions her and she takes the nomination.

Williams has a smear proposition. It is adopted. But there's more dirty business and Art Baker, the Barrymore-Cotten candidate, with one too many under his belt spills his stunt; he has an organization, quite the native fascist setup. The table is whirled, not turned. Miss Young is elected.

CAST: Loretta Young, Joseph Cotten, Ethel Barrymore, Charles Bickford, Rhys Williams, Rose Hobart, Harry Davenport.

CREDITS: Producer, Dore Schary; Director, H. C. Potter; Screenplay by Allen Rivkin, Laura Kerr.

DIRECTION, Excellent. PHOTOGRAPHY, First rate.

Carnival in Costa Rica

with Dick Haymes, Vera-Ellen
20th-Fox 95 Mins.

BRIGHT TROPICAL FRUIT SALAD LOADED WITH TECHNICOLOR SYRUP, GAYETY, MUSIC.

On the basic pattern of past performances but with a much fresher outdoor aspect and pointed attention to music, spectacle and a new locale in Central America, "Carnival in Costa Rica" should serve as an entertaining dish for the clientele that never goes anywhere and delights in travelling via the projection machine and soundtrack.

Musical content is tropical and Latin. Vera-Ellen of the whirling toes and lightly tripping feet is always an optical pleasure. Dick Haymes fills in suitably as the American visiting south of the border, falling for Miss Ellen, daughter to J. Carrol Naish and Anne Revere. Miss Revere is a former Kansan who came to Costa Rica as a school teacher, remained as Naish's bride.

The families of Pedro De Cordoba and Naish would like Miss Ellen to wed Cesar Romero, who has Celeste Holm along from the States as his intended. Haymes meets Miss Ellen. Romero tries to pass himself off as a poor match. It is fiesta time and much of the footage that frames the strained romantic relations between the families and the amorous principals is devoted to showing the local folk having themselves a singing and dancing time. Gregory Ratoff's direction captured a great deal of abandoned dancing, colorful custom and the general whoopla attendant at the time of Christmas holidays. It's Summer all the time in Costa Rica and the general tone of the doings have the light Summery touch.

After a great deal of chasing hither and yon all about San Jose, Romero weds Miss Holm, Miss Ellen finds haven in Haymes' arms, Naish and De Cordoba cool their Latin temperaments and the net result is a whopper of a kaleidoscope that settles into sensible focus.

CAST: Dick Haymes, Vera-Ellen, Cesar Romero, Celeste Holm, Anne Revere, J. Carrol Naish, Pedro De Cordoba, Barbara Whitting.

CREDITS: Producer, William A. Bacher; Director, Gregory Ratoff; Original Screenplay by John Larkin, Samuel Hoffenstein, Elizabeth Reinhardt; Cameraman, Harry Jackson.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

All Around the Town



Island Theatre Proposed

Observanda

Bobbie Rosenfeld, the Globe and Mail's "Sports Reel" unwinder, suggested in print recently that the Variety home and school ought to contain a swimming pool, that form of fun and exercise being among the few suitable for crippled kids. So the Lakeshore Swimming Club will turn half of the proceeds of its meet at the West End Y over to the Variety Club to help create such an addition . . . Jim Nairn, the hard-working and uncompromising public relations chief for Famous Players, has been appointed publicity director for Tent 28 . . . O. J. Silverthorne, Ontario censor, was bogged on CFRB's "Headliners" recently. Remarkable was the Canadian and American reaction to his recent annual report, with news stories and editorials appearing in dozens of papers and Leo McCarey quoting him. Can it be that everyone is surprised to hear about an intelligent censor? . . . Bob McStay: Will you pick up those dozens of book matches I collected for you during my recent jaunt to Pictureland? . . . Forgot to mention that at Paramount's luncheon for Variety in Hollywood Bill Demarest showed up in costume for his role in "Whispering Smith" and every little while shot the place up with blanks . . . Sherrill Corwin, Tent 25, LA: I thank you, sir.

The Din and the Glare

Did you happen to see that swell first edition of Odeon News, the monthly gotten up by Larry Graburn, which is so excellently dressed with Bill Bounsall's art work? From it I learned that Wannie Tyers of Niagara Falls became the father of a girl recently . . . Answering the phone at a friend's house the foreign-born maid asked me to hold the line "a little bit" . . . The continuing decline in theatre receipts and the fond hope for its climb back reminds me what the man said who was asked to describe middle age. "Middle age," he said, "is when you keep thinking that tomorrow you'll feel better but you never do" . . . Kid stuff continues to interest me—and I hope you. I saw a 10-year-old boy flag a cab downtown and the driver looked at him curiously but the kid, with the utmost aplomb, climbed in, gave the surprised hackie directions and waved him on . . . A friend was telling me that as a youngster his dad regularly gave him a letter to mail to his uncle and suggested that if he shouted "Go to Chicago!" after he dropped it into the box, it would proceed properly. For years he did that until he realized that he had been dadwinked . . . I often notice that when an Englishman wears odd trousers-and-coat there is something different about him from Canadians who feature the same attire. The other day it came to me—the Englishman also wears the vest.

Suggests Commonwealth Reel

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Phoenix of Australia were in for a chat and were surprised at the lack of "theatrettes" in this country. (That's what they call newsreel houses there.) He'd like to create a commonwealth newsreel . . . Gamest manager in the game is Norman Clavir of the Kino. The theatre, though it attracts folks from all sections, is near a tough district and muscle men, apparently accustomed to pushing past other managers, have tried it with him. Not so long ago he stood up to one tough guy and the fellow was fined. The other week another beat him up but those kind of lice will have to lick Norm every hour to get away with their stuff and the newest assaulter was punished by the court. Some indication of the habits of certain of his neighbors came to Norm when he discovered that the screen had been sewed up after being punctured by a thrown bottle. Then he heard stories of bicycles having been ridden in the aisles. I'll bet on Norm to win the battle . . . "Where money talks it often drowns out the voice of conscience"—Daily Commercial News and Building Record . . . Ruth Shumer, popular member of Odeon's head office staff and sister of Emp-U's Gerry, resigned to live in New York . . . Finest-looking haberdashery in town has been opened by your old friend Johnny Shapiro (of Sammy Sales &) on College Street, near Borden.

Centre Island Theatre

A delegation representing Centre Island business men has protested against the City of Toronto issuing a permit to Al Samuels for the erection of a theatre there. "We don't want to make Toronto island a Coney Island," said the spokesman. For an Islander that's the biggest laugh of the year. If ever there was a place filled with shabby hot dog stands, etc., it's Centre Island's main street, known as "The Drag."

Protests against the theatre are probably being made because the dime-greedy tenants of that commercialized thoroughfare who don't want a place handy that will keep 550 people away from their cash registers—unless they stand to benefit financially in some way.

Alderman Alan Lamport is wise to them. "I have met Island residents who told me they are starving for entertainment," he said. "As for it being an ugly-looking building, plans reveal it will be much better looking than a number of ramshackle buildings already there." Since the housing shortage thousands of people live on the island the year-round and they are just as entitled to see movies as are residents in other parts of the city.

Certain island operators have always had a selfish attitude about the place, city-owned and controlled, which they seem to regard as created for their own financial benefit. The city, however, seems to have gotten on to the rooming-house dodge and will force such places to pay for the same types of licenses operators in other parts of the city have had to obtain.

The islands have changed character somewhat in the past three decades. In other days the city's old families had summer places on them but these have mostly moved to Muskoka and other areas. The newcomers have been carrying on room-renting businesses for years on a large scale and the city had overlooked licensing them.

A shameful thing is the city's neglect of Hanlan's Point, to which thousands of poorer people go on Saturdays and Sundays to escape the heat of the city. No shelter exists in case of sudden summer storms and a mad rush for the ferry shed takes place. There's no telling how many children and others have caught cold because of that condition. There is one building beside the park, formerly a restaurant, which has been empty for years and dangerous indifference has kept it closed during emergencies.

As for a theatre on Centre Island, it can't do anything but add to the appearance and pleasures of the place.

Typodermic Injections

Isabel Hughes, whose novel "The Serpent's Tooth" will distinguish the Fall list of William Collins and Sons, is the daughter of the late Tom Bragg and a niece of George Beeston. A portrait in oils of her by Carrie Appel, Clare's wife, will be reproduced on the dust jacket . . . Last week I made reference to Lloyd Gurr's "daughter" when I meant "son"—as if I didn't know about Jimmy, the wizard of the keyboard . . . Charlie Chaplin of UA is at Lake Placid with his family, after which they will go to St. John for the summer and pappy to NY . . . The ASN's Jim Campbell, newsreel editor and v-p of the Montreal Camera Club, has been accepted as an associate of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain. That's a high honor among lensmen . . . Bill McConnell, veteran projectionist who was a star on the flying trapeze in his youth, passed away in Toronto recently . . . Louis Jackson looked at the old Dufferin Shipbuilding property on Fleet Street as a possible production centre while here . . . Will whoever borrowed our 1945 Film Daily Year book please return it? . . . The Byline Ball was big, boisterous and very enjoyable, with Glenn Ireton's department, the movie, stage and radio show starring Barbara Ann Scott, the best part of a crowded, varied and entertaining evening . . . Jack Fitzgibbons, Jr., became the father of an eight-pound son, Michael Radcliffe, last week. That's two boys for the Fitzgibbons . . . Max Weinberg of MGM's NY sport club dept was at the Byline Ball with Dewey Bloom.

NFBoard Panned In Parliament

(Continued from Page 1)

government members.

The Ottawa Evening Citizen took G. K. Fraser, Progressive Conservative member from Peterborough West, to task for editorially complaining, inaccurately, that the NFB, which he described as a "hungry white elephant," was asking for \$818,409 more. Actually, the paper said, the Film Board's appropriation was \$211,274 less than last year. Mr. Fraser was advised by the newspaper to read the estimates more carefully and improve his arithmetic.

A report of the NFB's activities over a 16-month period, which appeared in the Toronto Daily Star, was headed "Dabbling in Celluloid Eats Up Canada's Cash." This drew a number of letters criticizing the prominence given such stories in that paper and praising the National Film Board.

Readers touched on the international value of the films, which are exhibited in all countries, the NFB's training of and assistance to Canadian talent and the educational value of the shorts in rural and trade union circuits.

A return tabled in the House showed that the government had been billed \$506,199 for the production of 70 films in 16 months for 14 government departments.

A further 32 pictures are in the making at an estimated cost of \$287,463. Included in these are 16 contracts sub-let by the board to private producers and are estimated to cost \$141,883.

"Exercise Eskimo" was the most expensive presentation turned out, the report showed. This film was billed at \$38,028, while another Arctic expense was the filming of "Exercise Muskox."

Largest contract to a private concern went to Associated Screen News Limited, which received \$15,802 for making a picture, entitled "Livestock," for the Department of Trade and Commerce. Other private company contracts were \$6,200 to Crawley Films Limited for three films on the Canadian Rockies for the Department of Mines and Resources, and \$10,000 to Shelly Films Limited for a "Dental Health" film for the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Other major costs of films produced by the board were: "Restaurant Sanitation" for the Department of National Health and Welfare, \$9,717.26; "New Canadian Officers Training Corps" for the Department of National Defence, \$15,066.04; "Cruise of HMCS Warrior" for same depart-



No, these are not "Stars of Tomorrow" under contract to one of the Hollywood studios. The beauty so much in evidence in the above group of young ladies is hidden behind desks in some of the Toronto film exchanges. Some of them may be entrants in the Beauty Contest to be held at the Canadian Picture Pioneers' Family Picnic and Carnival, at Mavety's Circle "M" Ranch on Friday, June 20th.

ment, \$3,869.33; "Physical Fitness" for the Department of National Health and Welfare, \$19,359.66; "Your Morning Milk" for same department, \$14,363.04.

"Inflation Dangers" for the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, \$19,537.50; "Third Freedom" for the Department of Veterans Affairs, \$20,974.27; and "Best Quality Beef" for the Department of Agriculture, \$15,232.34.

NFBoard's 'Muskox' For USA, Britain

"Exercise Muskox," the film record of the Canadian Army's Arctic trek, has attracted interest in other countries and a two-year deal has been entered into between Granada Films and the National Film Board for theatrical distribution in the United States.

Ottawa Little Th'tre Returns To Plays

Ottawa's Little Theatre has ceased to operate as a motion picture house and has returned to the exclusive use of the Ottawa Drama League, its owners. Under lease to Casey Swedlove since February, 1945, it was used for film exhibitions with the exception of a few weeks when the league presented its own stage production.

Swedlove is moving the sound system and projection equipment to his new Linden Theatre, Ottawa, which is nearing completion.

**M. P. MURPHY**

Following a general sales conference of Dominion Sound Equipments Limited, held in Montreal recently, a meeting of the board of directors took place and the election of M. P. Murphy as president was announced. Murphy, assistant general manager (commercial) of the Northern Electric Company and vice-president of Amalgamated Electric Corporation, replaces M. K. Pike, formerly vice-president of Northern Electric, who resigned as chief executive on retirement.

Other Dominion Sound changes announced included the appointment of D. E. Daniel as district manager in Winnipeg, and W. F. Graham as manager, Calgary office. J. E. Tagg was appointed manager at Saint John, NB, and A. T. McCormick, formerly of Winnipeg, has been transferred to Montreal for special duties.

'Driftwood' Shooting

Republic's "Driftwood," starring Walter Brennan, Ruth Warwick, Dean Jagger, Charlotte Greenwood and Natalie Wood, has gone before the cameras.

Stephen Dunne Cast

Stephen Dunne will have one of the male leads in Columbia's "When a Girl Is Beautiful," to be directed by Frank McDonald.

Third Dick Tracy Set By RKO

"Dick Tracy's Dilemma" will come to the screen as the third in RKO's series of screen thrillers woven around the exploits of the square-jawed sleuth, his girl-friend Tess Trueheart, his assistant Pat Patton, and his pal, Vitamin Flintheart, the broken-down old actor.

Documentaries Grow In Theatre Favor

(Continued from Page 1)

great relief. The rest from years of that sort of thing since the end of hostilities is beginning to have a good effect and it was noted by bookers a while back that feature films with war backgrounds, dead at the boxoffice for so long, had begun to come back.

Such films as "G.I. Joe," "Objective Burma," "A Walk in the Sun" and others suddenly turned out to be more than acceptable to sub-run audiences, after being comparatively ignored for quite some time. Probably the greatest beneficiary of this switch in taste was United Artists. Charles Chaplin, UA chief, kept "Way to the Stars," British film with a war background, on the shelf for a year after its USA reception indicated indifference because of its subject matter. When released for its first-run at the International Cinema in Toronto the picture hung up a record-breaking seven weeks, then fol-

lowed with two weeks at the Hollywood.

Not the smallest indication by any means of the growth of interest in documentaries is the fact that bookings of the National Film Board's Canada Carries On series have increased by 35 per cent during the past year. The March of Time series, distributed by 20th-Fox, continues to maintain interest and RKO has entered the field with a series, Today and Tomorrow. So has J. Arthur Rank with This Modern Age. Addition of these series is not affecting seriously the bookings of older ones, which indicates an expansion in exhibition possibilities.

Latest entry into the Canadian short and feature documentary field is the United Kingdom Information Office. Films from this agency, dealing realistically with many subjects from music to espionage, are being distributed through Astral Films and are capturing much screen time.

"Children on Trial," a UK 63-minute semi-documentary dealing with juvenile delinquency, and in which the actual characters appear, played such theatres as 20th Century's Midtown, Toronto, and Odeon's Savoy, Hamilton. Featured in the advertising as half of a double bill, it attracted much interest, staying a week at the Midtown and four days at the Savoy. Circuits as well as Independents have played the film in many situations.

Other feature semi-documentaries which Astral claims are doing well in bookings and business are the 65-minute underground training film, "School for Danger," a British Information subject, and the 63-minute National Film Board record of the army's Arctic trek, "Exercise Muskox."

A documentary, due for release soon, which will likely attract much interest is the Italian-made "Story of the Pope," feature-length film with narration by Monsignor Sheen. It will be offered in Canada by PRC.

Radio City Books New RKO Film

"The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," RKO Radio's most ambitious Dore Schary Production to date and the picture that was a contributing force in his appointment to head the studio's production activities, has been announced by the Radio City Music Hall for an extended engagement early this summer. It's stars are Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple.

**BILL GEHRING**

Appointed assistant general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation.

RKO Sales Talk Set For Gotham

RKO's district managers, branch managers, salesmen and field men from the various exchange centres across Canada will attend the company's 16th annual sales meeting, according to an announcement by Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager. The sessions will take place in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York from July 7 to 9, inclusive, and close to 500 delegates are expected, including some from RKO's foreign offices.

Evidence of RKO's expanding sales operations is shown by the fact that three separate sales divisions will be represented at the sales conferences. The newly-created North-South division, headed by Charles Boasberg and which takes in Canada, as well as the Eastern and Western sections, under the supervision of Nat Levy and Walter Branson, respectively, will hear production plans that will forecast the most ambitious schedule of top product in the history of the organization.

Members of RKO's producing affiliates will also be in attendance including Walt Disney Productions, Samuel Goldwyn Productions, Sol Lesser, Robert Riskin, Argosy Films, Independent Artists, Rainbow Productions and Frank Ross Productions.

Winners of the 1947 Ned Depinet drive will be announced at the meeting and prizes awarded by Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president in whose honor the campaign was launched. N. Peter Rathvon, president of the company, and Dore Schary, head of production, will come from Hollywood to be present.

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Honor Burns At Para Gathering

Canadian Paramount Film Service Limited held its annual sales meeting, June 10th and 11th, in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto. Presided over by Gordon Lightstone, Canadian general manager, the meeting was attended by managers, salesmen and bookers from Paramount's six branches in the Dominion and their head office personnel.

Attending from the Vancouver offices were Bob Murphy, branch manager, and M. Stevenson, booker; from Calgary were W. O. Kelly, branch manager, and R. MacLeod, salesman. The Winnipeg branch was represented by Syl Gunn, branch manager and R. Lightstone, salesman; P. J. Hogan, Saint John supervisor, came with the delegation from the Montreal division, which included Tom Dowbiggin, local manager, and R. Goodreau, salesman.

Delegates from the Toronto office were R. Simpson, manager, Arthur Hersh and A. Theurer, bookers, and J. Delaney, salesman. Home office personnel in attendance were W. J. O'Neil, secretary-treasurer, H. Q. Burns, ad-sales, and Win Barron, in charge of public relations.

Also in attendance, from the Paramount home office in New York, were Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of sales distribution, Curtis Mitchell, director of advertising and publicity, and Oscar Morgan, in charge of short subjects sales and Paramount News.

Climax of the sessions was the final 25-Year Club dinner, which on this occasion honored H. Q. Burns.

Toronto's Belsize Hosts Incurables

Ralph Wilson, manager of 20th Century Theatres' Belsize in Toronto, recently played host to a group of youngsters from the Home for Incurable Children.

Escorted to and from the theatre by a police motorcycle escort, many of the kiddies came in wheel chairs. After the show they were treated to sandwiches and ice cream by Wilson. A special kid's program was shown which included 20th-Fox' "Centennial Summer" and four cartoons. For many of the children it was their first experience inside a theatre.

Ken Rolland, whose amateurs are a regular feature of the programs of the Belsize and the Royce, took his troupe to the Home and put on a performance for the ones who could not attend the regular show.

Paramount-FPCC Packers



Above is a section of the food-packing production line set up by employees of the Paramount-Famous Players family to provide parcels for Paramount staffs in the British Isles during the present severe food shortage. Combined operation is under the guidance of Gordon Lightstone of Paramount and J. J. Fitzgibbons and R. W. Bolstad of Famous Players.

From the left are Colin Belle, Harrison Patte, Charlie Murphy, Ferg Martin, Bill McGill, Bea Hetherington, Ann Carroll, Bob Fuller, Tom Chatfield, Bud Barker, Bea MacPherson, Dorothy Ryan, Marion Ballard and Maxine Watson. Belle, Murphy and McGill are from Paramount, the rest from Famous Players.

George Peters Is Now Odeon VP

The election of Leonard W. Brockington, CMG, KC, and George W. Peters as vice-presidents of Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited, was announced recently by the Honorable J. Earl Lawson, KC, president of the company and head of the J. Arthur Rank interests in the Dominion. He also made public the election of Alan E. Robinette to the position of secretary.

Brockington, who was the first chairman of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and during 1942 and 1943 was the advisor on Commonwealth affairs to the British Minister of Information, has been a director of Odeon since the expansion of the theatre circuit and is Rank's legal advisor in Canada.

Peters, with Odeon since its inception, is a director and until recently held the office of secretary. Robinette, a member of the Canadian Bar, joined the company following services overseas with the Canadian Army.

Adele Jergens Film

Adele Jergens will have one of the feminine leads in Columbia's "When a Girl Is Beautiful," a romantic musical comedy to be produced by Wallace MacDonald.

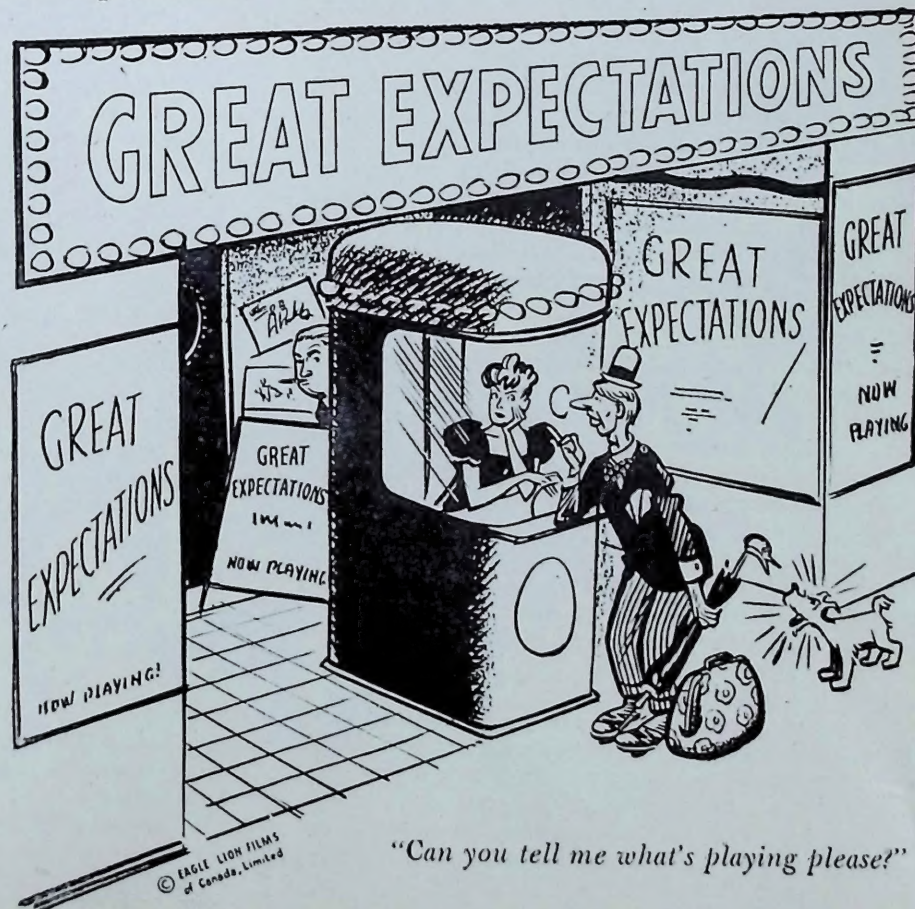
Writer Assigned

David Lang has been assigned to script RKO's "Bodyguard."

Title For Fox Film

Final title for 20th-Fox' "Dancing in the Dark" is "Julie."

It's a problem!



"Can you tell me what's playing please?"

Badgering The NFB

(Continued from Page 1)

NFB an honest count. These companies not only are respected for their integrity but know their business. Charges of inefficiency and lack of regard for expense aimed at the Board are also a reflection on those helping to do its work.

The National Film Board must be judged according to purpose and accomplishment only.

The NFB is not an enterprise established in wartime and dictated by urgency. It was created before the war, when John Grierson came here to alter and expand the existing agency at the request of the Prime Minister. Universally admired among film makers and the governments of other countries which sought its services, its work in wartime was nothing short of amazing. Canada, not being film production territory of any consequence, had no pool of craftsmen to draw on and most of those who helped make its short subjects had to learn while creating and create while learning.

There is no doubt that Canada will become a great theatrical film centre in years to come and the National Film Board has done much to bring that day closer. It has trained workers, made Canadians film minded and helped to bring our production possibilities home to Canadians, Americans, Britons and Frenchmen. Not only is interest in commercial production growing in domestic investment circles but prominent producers of the world's leading film communities have come here to learn about the part we can play in their future activities. They see here the nucleus of a great industry in the private film companies nourished by NFB assignments, and in the Board itself.

Is it the desire of legislators and newspapers to deprive our country of its share of a great art and the benefits of a new industry by weakening the infant industry of today and restricting its growth so that it will have no appeal to domestic and foreign investors?

The Canadian film is a new means of communication that is immeasurably valuable in helping to create and expand a strong and true Canadian spirit. NFB films are national in content, appeal and distribution and as such are our leading means of expressing that message. Radio is too rarely national, for Canada does not have enough population to buy commodities offered by sponsors on a scale that would support many coast-to-coast shows.

The CBC attempts to overcome that but it must be remembered that the voice that comes over the air disappears quickly and those responsible seem to think that every listener has the same degree of awareness, the same amount of memory and the same capacity exactly for being stirred or provoked into thinking. The film is far superior when it comes to making a point and having the auditor remember it, for not only does it enjoy greater proof against distraction but its appeal is visual as well as vocal. And, what is more, a film can be seen more than once. The superiority of the film as the most impressive means of communication in existence is disputed by few and its value, so obvious during the war, is being proved every week by the use of drive trailers in theatres.

In this country of ours, which all agree has an outstanding future among the nations, the greatest handicap to the development of a richer national spirit are the islands of population, geographical and cultural. These islands, separated by vast spaces, contain communities of different races, religions, cultures and languages. The common bond between each and all must be strengthened or we will grow apart.

We must become more interested in each other through general acceptance of common principles and values important nationally if our like future is to be realized. This work must be carried on now and this national spirit advanced in the older and newer centres of population, for new residents from other countries are being added to them every day and their education in citizenship must begin through their long-settled neighbors whose love for and faith in Canada must be worthy of emulation.

Comparatively few of those who inhabit our separated communities will ever see all of Canada and there must be some useful means of giving them a sense of our history and our future, of bringing home to them its vastness, its beauty, its potential greatness, the respect of other nations for it. They must realize their stake in it and their duty toward it.

Every possible means of communication is necessary to accomplish this and the most effective one is the film, which suffers least from language barriers. An examination of the Canadian census can make anyone realize what a great task this is, for, with the possible exception of the United States, our country is the greatest patchwork of races, religions, cultures and languages in the world. Integration will lead eventually to the emergence of a distinct national character in which will be represented the wonderful and varied elements of Canadian communities as they exist today. As an example of integration of this sort the United States is more advanced than we are.

And there is more to it than that. Young Canadians today who are most representative of the future character of our country and its people are crossing the border into the USA, taking their talent and training with them and depriving the country which gave them these gifts of their benefits. This steady draining of our intellectual product, extremely harmful because it not only deprives us of workers but of teachers of future workers, has become the concern of scholars and legislators. It doesn't take a master mind to relate their exodus to the lack of opportunity here—and that lack of opportunity to our limited development. Among the greatest means of spurring that development is the National Film Board—in its own field a means of training and using Canadians with film training.

Not alone has the NFB, through its theatrical and non-theatrical films, taught Canadians about Canada but its films are our international language. Everywhere in the world there is a Canada-consciousness today and this is largely due to NFB pictures of Canada and Canadian life. Our country and its ways are better known—and often, I suspect, more admired—by many in other countries than to a considerable number of our citizens.

I wonder if those critical legislators really reflect the opinion of their constituents about the National Film Board? Do these constituents—in the areas represented by the critics—care less for NFB films than those who live in the ridings of members of Parliament who recognize the Board for its work in the past and the need for it in the future?

The National Film Board should be recognized and helped, not condemned and weakened. It should be properly housed in its own building instead of the sprawling and ramshackle places used for quarters now. These surprise visitors from other countries who come to Ottawa with a greater appreciation of the National Film Board than many of the people it serves.



Paramount's 'Blaze of Noon' Suspenseful Air Film

WITH an important cast headed by Anne Baxter, William Holden, Sonny Tufts, William Bendix, Sterling Hayden, Howard da Silva and Johnny Sands, Paramount's "Blaze of Noon" is a thrilling, suspense-filled motion picture of the pioneer days of the US Air Mail.

Story deals with four brothers who love flying more than they love life itself and what happens to them because of it. Its effects on the people who love the brothers are also highlights of the picture.



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